

07-11-05

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PTO/SB/30 (04-05)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal</b>  Address to: MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	09/998682-Conf. #7368
	Filing Date	October 31, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Ferrari, et al.
	Art Unit	2162
	Examiner Name	C. Y. T. Truong
	Attorney Docket Number	109878.126US1

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 08-0219. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

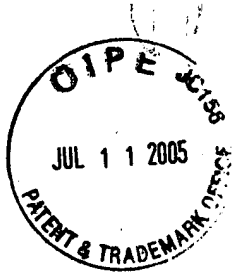
c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Signature		Date	July 11, 2005
Name (Print/Type)	Donald R. Steinberg	Registration No.	37,241

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Express Mail Label No. EV604747510US Dated: July 11, 2005



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Ferrari, et al.	)	Examiner:	Truong, CamY T
		)		
Serial No.:	09/998,682	)	Art Unit:	2162
		)		
Filed:	October 31, 2001	)	Confirmation No.:	7368
		)		
Entitled:	Hierarchical data-driven search and navigation system and method for information retrieval	)	Atty. Docket No.:	109878.126 US1
		)		

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

EV604747510 US

Express Mail No.

07/11/2005

Date of Deposit

*Rochelle Capobianco*

Rochelle Capobianco

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

MAIL STOP RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby request continued examination of this application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 by filing a submission (this Amendment) and the required fee set forth in § 1.17(e). Prosecution is closed as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 because the last office action was a Final Office Action, mailed January 11, 2005.

The three-month period for a reply to the Final Office Action expired on April 11, 2005. A petition for a three-month extension of time is enclosed herewith, extending the period for

Appl. No. : 09/998,682  
Amendment and RCE dated : 07/11/2005  
in Reply to Final Office  
Action dated : 01/11/2005  
Express Mail Label No. : EV604747510US

Attorney Docket No.: 109878.126 US1

reply up to and including July 11, 2005. The Director is authorized to charge any fees not covered to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on January 11, 2005, Applicants offer the following amendments and remarks. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 14 of this paper.